



3713

PATENT

pre A #2

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Brian Showers et al.

Title: DISTRIBUTED SECRETS FOR VALIDATION OF GAMING
TRANSACTIONS

Application No.: 09/740,325

Filed:

December 18, 2001

Examiner: (not yet assigned)

Group Art Unit:

3713

Atty. Docket No.: 027-0002

March 12, 2001

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
Washington, DC 20231**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Prior to a first action on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Specification

On Page 1, as the first sentence following the title, please insert the following new paragraph:

--This application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/252,779, filed November 22, 2000.--

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment adds the "specific reference" required by 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) to obtain the benefit of an earlier filing date. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.78(5), this submission is being made within the later of four months from the actual filing date of the above-identified application or sixteen months from the filing date of the prior provisional application. Accordingly, no statement or surcharge is required.

No new matter has been added. Examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

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